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**My work at the Capitol
in 2006**

John C. Geragosian
State Representative

State Representative

John C. Geragosian

State Capitol • LOB Room 4036 • Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Żeby otrzymać tą informacja po Polsku
prosze skontaktować się z John
Geragosian.

Telephone: **240-8542**

E-mail: **John.Geragosian@cga.ct.gov**

Mail: **Rep. John Geragosian**
State Capitol, LOB Room 4036
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Para una versión de este boletín
legislativo en español, favor de llamar
a mi oficina al **240-8657**, por correo
electrónico a
John.Geragosian@cga.ct.gov o
pueden enviar una carta a la siguiente
dirección:

Rep. John Geragosian
State Capitol, LOB Room 4036
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



State Representative **John C. Geragosian**

Dear Neighbors,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your state representative. It has been an honor and a privilege to work for you and our city in the legislature.

This newsletter highlights some of the issues that you have told me matter to you. While we made progress, there is more work to do on issues like health coverage for everyone, reducing the property-tax burden and creating jobs with good wages and benefits.

Thank you to those of you who contacted me this year to share your feelings about these and other issues. If you would like additional information, please call my Capitol office at **860-240-8542**, or e-mail me at **John.Geragosian@cga.ct.gov**.

Wishing you a good summer,



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Children

HEALTHY KIDS INITIATIVE

We took strong action to make health care available for all of Connecticut's children. Legislation we passed makes it easier for families to enroll their children in the HUSKY Plan. We also guaranteed that children in the "HUSKY A" Plan will receive all necessary screening, diagnostic services and treatment.

ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE

Routine dental care affects our children's daily lives and can prevent illnesses, making it especially important for needy children. However, dentists were not being reimbursed adequately by the state for the services they provide to children from low-income homes. This year, we increased the reimbursement rates to dentists so more children will have the care they need.

HEALTHY FOOD AND BEVERAGES IN SCHOOLS

This landmark law bans the sale of soda and sugary beverages and gives local school districts incentives to offer healthy food and snacks for purchase by students. It requires the Department of Education to establish nutritional standards. With over nine million overweight children in America today, it's up to us to provide nutritious choices to give our children healthy futures.



A Report from State Representative John C. Geragosian

Transportation

ROADMAP FOR CONNECTICUT'S FUTURE

We approved a \$2.5 billion investment in Connecticut's transportation system to reduce congestion, beef up mass transit, and encourage jobs and economic growth. The funds will expand mass transit options; improve coordination and planning across state agencies; and put new emphasis on transportation planning as we look to our state's future development.

NEW BRITAIN/HARTFORD BUSWAY

I'm pleased to have worked to ensure that the transportation legislation includes critical state funding for the New Britain/Hartford Busway. The busway provides a fantastic opportunity for the City of New Britain. If it is planned and executed properly, the busway will give us opportunities for neighborhood redevelopment and to create new jobs. It will also provide New Britain with affordable mass transit to Newington, West Hartford, and Hartford. This is an extraordinary opportunity for our city and our region.

Seniors

FIXING THE MEDICARE DRUG PLAN

This session, we took action to make sure our seniors did not lose access to their medicines because of changes to the federal Medicare Part D program. We provided funding to cover prescriptions that were previously excluded for seniors on ConnPACE and other state programs.

DISABLED VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

In the past, disability payments to veterans, the blind and people with total disabilities were counted against them in determining property-tax exemptions. We believed this was wrong, and passed a law so that these much-needed disability payments are not counted as income.

REMOVAL OF SOCIAL SECURITY OFFSET FOR WORKING SENIORS

Too many seniors are forced to work in today's difficult economy. Until now, seniors injured on the job who were granted workers' compensation benefits had their Social Security benefits deducted from their workers' compensation. I'm happy to say that we corrected this inequity.



LONG TERM CARE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

As the Connecticut population continues to age, we have taken an important step to help meet the needs of the future. The Commission on Aging will conduct an assessment to identify our long-term needs to provide the senior citizens of the future with better care and a better quality of life.

Feel free to contact me:

By phone:
224-1701 (Home)
240-8542 (Capitol)

By mail:
State Capitol, LOB 4036
Hartford, CT 06106
By e-mail:
John.Geragosian@cga.ct.gov

On the web:
www.cga.ct.gov/hdo/hdo025.asp



State Representative

John C. Geragosian

State Funding for New Britain = Property Tax Relief

State education funding increase: **\$999,656**

Other state funding increases
for New Britain: **\$1,817,720**

Total INCREASE in education
funding and property tax relief
for New Britain: **\$2,817,376**

State education funding is essential to improving the quality of New Britain schools while keeping property taxes down. The state budget I voted for increased state education money, helping our New Britain school budget.

This budget also increases other state funds coming to our city. Until statewide property tax reform is passed, state dollars will be critical to help the city make ends meet while holding the line on property taxes.

